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UNCLAS PANAMA 000853

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NP, T AND EUR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: PANAMA STRONGLY ENDORSES PSI LEADING UP TO
ANNIVERSARY MEETING

REF: A. STATE 79452

[1](#)B. STATE 79091

On April 12, PolOff delivered ref A demarche to Panama's Public Security and National Defense Council (Consejo) Executive Secretary Ramiro Jarvis, who is leading the GOP's final negotiations with the USG to amend the 2002 Salas-Becker Supplemental Maritime (shipriders) Agreement to fulfill Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) purposes. Jarvis strongly reiterated the GOP's support of the PSI and its Statement of Interdiction Principles, which is referenced in the preamble to the above-mentioned amendments, as well as the goals of the anniversary meeting. Jarvis mentioned that Minister of Government and Justice (MOGJ) Arnulfo Escalona will make public statements to this effect in the coming weeks in the context of concluding the amendments. A Washington delegation visited Panama on April 5 and another delegation will visit on April 14 to assist in the conclusion of an agreement (responding to ref B).

MCMULLEN